

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): An image storage and display system comprising an image server storing image data recorded on a high readout-speed capable storage medium, and a display terminal connected to said image server via a network, wherein; said image server is provided with a storage control means that creates reversible compressed image data of an original image data, and at least one irreversible compressed image data, and stores in said storage medium said original image data or said reversible compressed image data, and said at least one irreversible compressed image data, which stand for multiple versions of image data, and

said display terminal is provided with an input means capable of receiving specification of a version of the image data or an image data group to be displayed on said display terminal, and an acquisition means for acquiring the version of said image data or said image data group received in said input means,

wherein said storage control means is capable of changing a compression ratio of said irreversible compressed image data.

2. (canceled).

3. (previously presented): An image storage and display system according to claim 1, wherein said storage control means assigns to each version a parameter or parameters

representing an image quality and/or image usage purpose represented by said each version of image data, and stores said each version of image data in the storage medium,

wherein said input means is capable of receiving specification of the version of image data as the image quality and/or image usage purpose represented by each version of said image data, and

wherein said acquisition means acquires the version of image data corresponding to the desired image quality and/or image usage purpose received in the input means.

4. (previously presented): An image storage and display system according to claim 1, wherein, for cases in which said image data group is to be acquired, said storage control means assigns to each version of said image data a parameter or parameters representing an image quality and/or image usage purpose of each examination or series specified by said image data group, and stores each said version of image data in the storage medium,

wherein, for cases in which said image data group is to be acquired, said input means is capable of receiving specification of the version thereof as the image quality and/or image usage purpose of each examination or series specified by said image data group, and

wherein, for cases in which said image data group is to be acquired, said acquisition means acquires the version of said image data group corresponding to the image quality and/or image usage purpose of each desired examination or series received in said input means.

5. (previously presented): An image storage and display system comprising an image server storing image data recorded on a high readout-speed capable storage medium, and a display terminal connected to said image server via a network, wherein;

said image server is provided with a storage control means that creates reversible compressed image data of an original image data, and at least one irreversible compressed image data, and stores in said storage medium said original image data or said reversible compressed image data, and said at least one irreversible compressed image data, which stand for multiple versions of image data, and

said display terminal is provided with an input means capable of receiving specification of the a version of the image data or an image data group to be displayed on said display terminal, and an acquisition means for acquiring the version of said image data or said image data group received in said input means,

wherein said storage control means obtains said irreversible compressed image data by subjecting said original image data to a progressively extractable data-compression process, and

wherein said acquisition means, for cases in which the version received in said input means corresponds to irreversible compressed image data, changes the progressive expansion level of said irreversible compressed image data, according to the predetermined conditions, and acquires said irreversible compressed image data.

6. (currently amended): An image storage and display system according to claim 1, wherein;

said storage control means stores in said storage medium said multiple versions of image data along with the diagnostic information related to the original image data diagnostic information, and

said acquisition means acquires the versions of image data or and image data groups along with said diagnosis information received in said input means.

7. (previously presented): An image storage and display system according to claim 1, wherein;

said image server is provided with a diagnosis-status management means for managing the diagnosis status of said original image data, and

said storage control means controls, according to said diagnostic status, which versions of image data are acquired at said display terminal.

8. (previously presented): An image storage and display system comprising an image server storing image data recorded on a high readout-speed capable storage medium, and a display terminal connected to said image server via a network, wherein;

said image server is provided with a storage control means that creates reversible compressed image data of an original image data, and at least one irreversible compressed image data, and stores in said storage medium said original image data or said reversible compressed image data, and said at least one irreversible compressed image data, which stand for multiple versions of image data, and

said display terminal is provided with an input means capable of receiving specification of the a version of the image data or an image data group to be displayed on said display terminal, and an acquisition means for acquiring the version of said image data or said image data group received in said input means,

wherein said image server is provided with an other storage medium in addition to the high readout-speed capable storage medium, and

wherein said storage control means deletes the original image data and the reversible compressed image data from the high readout-speed capable storage medium after a predetermined period of time has elapsed, and stores said original image data and said reversible compressed image data in said other storage medium.

9. (previously presented): An image storage and display system comprising an image server storing image data recorded on a high readout-speed capable storage medium, and a display terminal connected to said image server via a network, wherein;

 said image server is provided with a storage control means that creates reversible compressed image data of an original image data, and at least one irreversible compressed image data, and stores in said storage medium said original image data or said reversible compressed image data, and said at least one irreversible compressed image data, which stand for multiple versions of image data, and

 said display terminal is provided with an input means capable of receiving specification of the a version of the image data or an image data group to be displayed on said display terminal, and an acquisition means for acquiring the version of said image data or said image data group received in said input means,

 wherein said image server is provided with an other storage medium in addition to the high readout-speed capable storage medium, and

wherein said storage control means stores all versions of image data in both said high readout-speed capable storage medium and said other storage medium, and deletes the original image data and the reversible compressed image data from said high readout-speed capable storage medium after a predetermined period of time has elapsed.

10. (previously presented): An image storage and display system comprising an image server storing image data recorded on a high readout-speed capable storage medium, and a display terminal connected to said image server via a network, wherein;

 said image server is provided with a storage control means that creates reversible compressed image data of an original image data, and at least one irreversible compressed image data, and stores in said storage medium said original image data or said reversible compressed image data, and said at least one irreversible compressed image data, which stand for multiple versions of image data, and

 said display terminal is provided with an input means capable of receiving specification of the a version of the image data or an image data group to be displayed on said display terminal, and an acquisition means for acquiring the version of said image data or said image data group received in said input means,

 wherein said image server is provided with an other storage medium in addition to the high readout-speed capable storage medium, and

 wherein said storage control means stores all versions of image data in said high readout-speed capable storage medium, stores said irreversible compressed image data in said other storage medium, and deletes said original image data or reversible compressed image data from

said high readout-speed capable storage medium after a predetermined period of time has elapsed.

11. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 1, wherein the compression ratio is 1/5 to 1/50.

12. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 5, wherein the progressively extractable data-compression process comprises subjecting the original image data to a wavelet transformation.

13. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 12, wherein the wavelet transformation produces an image whose length and width are reduced by $\frac{1}{2}$, an image having a lengthwise edge component, an image having a widthwise edge component and an image having a diagonal edge component.

14. (previously presented): An image storage and display system comprising an image server storing image data recorded on a storage medium, and a display terminal connected to said image server via a network, wherein;

 said image server is provided with a storage control means that creates reversible compressed image data of an original image data, and at least one irreversible compressed image data, and stores in said storage medium said original image data or said reversible compressed image data, and said at least one irreversible compressed image data, which stand for multiple versions of image data, and

 said display terminal is provided with an input means capable of receiving specification of a version of the image data or an image data group to be displayed on said display terminal,

and an acquisition means for acquiring the version of said image data or said image data group received in said input means,

wherein said storage control means is capable of changing a compression ratio of said irreversible compressed image data.

15. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 1, wherein said original image data or said reversible compressed image data, and said at least one irreversible compressed image data are stored on one physical device.

16. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 1, wherein the version of the image data is defined by at least one of a compression ratio, compression type, image quality and volume.

17. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 1, wherein the image data group represents a plurality of image data with the same version.

18. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 5, wherein said storage control means is capable of changing a compression ratio of said irreversible compressed image data.

19. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 8, wherein said storage control means is capable of changing a compression ratio of said irreversible compressed image data.

20. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 9, wherein said storage control means is capable of changing a compression ratio of said irreversible compressed image data.

21. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 10, wherein said storage control means is capable of changing a compression ratio of said irreversible compressed image data.

22. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 18, wherein the progressively extractable data-compression process comprises subjecting the original image data to a wavelet transformation.

23. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 22, wherein the wavelet transformation produces an image whose length and width are reduced by $\frac{1}{2}$, an image having a lengthwise edge component, an image having a widthwise edge component and an image having a diagonal edge component.

24. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 1, wherein the server creates two irreversible compressed images of said original image data.

25. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 1, wherein the server creates two irreversible compressed images, and

wherein the two irreversible compressed images are created using different compression ratios.

26. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 1, wherein a plurality of compression ratios are selectable by the storage control means based on a type of apparatus creating the original image data.

27. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 1, wherein the server comprises the storage control means, and

wherein the server is separate from the display terminal.

28. (previously presented): The image storage and display system of claim 27, wherein the display terminal comprises the input means and the acquisition means.

29. (previously presented): The image storage and display system according to claim 1, wherein said storage control means assigns a parameter or parameters representing an image quality to each said version of said image data and stores each said version of said image data in said storage medium,

wherein said input means receives a parameter or parameters corresponding to a desired version of said image data from a user, and

wherein said acquisition means acquires said desired version of said image data from said image server and displays said desired version of said image data on said display terminal.

30. (previously presented): The image storage and display system according to claim 1, wherein, for cases in which said image data group is to be acquired, said storage control means assigns a parameter or parameters representing an image quality to each version of image data corresponding to said image data group and stores each said version of said image data corresponding to said image data group in said storage medium,

wherein, for cases in which said image data group is to be acquired, said input means receives a parameter or parameters corresponding to a desired version of said image data of said image data group from a user, and

wherein, for cases in which said image data group is to be acquired, said acquisition means acquires said desired version of said image data of said image data group from said image

server and displays the desired version of said image data of said image data group on said display terminal.

31. (previously presented): The image storage and display system according to claim 14, wherein said storage control means assigns a parameter or parameters representing an image quality to each said version of said image data and stores each said version of said image data in said storage medium,

wherein said input means receives a parameter or parameters corresponding to a desired version of said image data from a user, and

wherein said acquisition means acquires said desired version of said image data from said image server and displays said desired version of said image data on said display terminal.

32. (previously presented): An image storage and display system according to claim 14, wherein, for cases in which said image data group is to be acquired, said storage control means assigns a parameter or parameters representing an image quality to each version of image data corresponding to said image data group and stores each said version of said image data corresponding to said image data group in said storage medium,

wherein, for cases in which said image data group is to be acquired, said input means receives a parameter or parameters corresponding to a desired version of said image data of said image data group from a user, and

wherein, for cases in which said image data group is to be acquired, said acquisition means acquires said desired version of said image data of said image data group from said image

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server and displays said desired version of said image data of said image data group on said display terminal.

33. (new): An image storage and display system according to claim 6, wherein:
said display terminal displays the versions of image data or image data groups along with
said diagnosis information acquired by said acquisition means.